



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
NO.

LTC # 287-2005

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor David Dermer and Members of the City Commission
FROM: City Manager Jorge M. Gonzalez

DATE: November 21, 2005

SUBJECT: Building Official Update

The purpose of this LTC is to update you on the Building Official Assessment Center Process with the four finalists. The forum will be held on December 8, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the Miami Beach Convention Center Hall B Room 214-215. Please see the attached document that will provide you with an overview of the Assessment Center Process and a short biography on each one of the candidates.

If you should have any further questions, please feel free to contact me, or Tim Hemstreet, Assistant City Manager.

JMG/tjh

Attachment

cc: Tim Hemstreet, Assistant City Manager

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ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE NEXT BUILDING OFFICIAL

Come and meet the finalists.

As one of the regular users of Building Department Services, we are interested in gaining your feedback regarding the finalists for the position.

Thursday, December 8*, 2005

8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**Miami Beach Convention Center,
Hall B-214-215**

The forum will allow you to meet, listen, and question each of the four finalists sequentially in scheduled 30 to 45 minute sessions. A moderator will solicit and collect your feedback for the City to use to make its final selection. Please see attached document that gives a overview of the Assessment Center Process short bio of each one of the candidates.

If you are interested in participating please RSVP to Judy Hernandez 305.673.7010 ext 6672 or via e-mail at judyhernandez@miamibeachfl.gov by **Monday, December 5, 2005** and please plan on arriving at the Miami Beach Convention Center Hall B in rooms 214-215 between 8:30 and 8:45 AM.

We look forward to seeing you on December 8.

** This forum was originally scheduled on October 24, however due to Hurricane Wilma it was postponed to this date.*

MIAMI BEACH CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL SELECTION PROCESS OUTLINE/CANDIDATE SUMMARY

Summary

After a lengthy recruiting process and preliminary interviews, the City of Miami Beach has identified four strong candidates to be its next Building Official. At this point, the City would like you, its residents, developers, small business owners, employees and other interested parties, to provide input concerning the candidates. Accordingly, we have arranged for you to meet the four candidates, to ask questions and to provide feedback.

The Details

You will have an opportunity, along with others with similar interests, to spend approximately 30 minutes with each candidate and to develop an opinion of the candidate and his capabilities. To the degree possible, you should attempt to assess each of the candidates on their:

- Management abilities,
- Analytical skills,
- Customer service orientation,
- Technical competency, and
- Communications skills

Each candidate will have four minutes at the beginning of the session to introduce themselves. Once the candidate finishes, the session moderator will request those in attendance to ask the candidate questions. The questions should be direct and to the point as well as being non-confrontational.

At the end of the session, the candidates will leave the room and the moderator will solicit your comments concerning the candidate. Note that we are not asking you to rank the candidates in any way but rather to provide substantive feedback concerning your assessment of the candidates' capabilities. The feedback period will last approximately 15 minutes and a note-taking secretary will memorialize your comments anonymously. After the feedback period, the session with the next candidate will begin.

The information you provide will be used by the City to narrow the field further and to assist the City Manager in his selection of the City's next Building Official.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Charles A. Cangianelli

One might think that an individual who sits on the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Club, volunteers for Fort Pierce Athletic League, Hibiscus Children's Center and the Boy Scouts of America would have very little of his time left to maintain a thriving career. Mr. Cangianelli proves this theory wrong. He is a licensed building official and general contractor who has expertise in construction, architecture, and engineering and excels in the managerial field. Most recently, the building official in Fort Pierce and before that, he also owned his own construction company for 12 years. He holds a bachelors degree from New York Institute of Technology where he majored in Architecture and minored in civil engineering and an associate degree in business administration from the University of the State of New York.

Hamid Dolikhani

With two Masters Degrees (one in Urban and Regional Planning and one in Public Administration) and a lengthy list of certifications, it is impossible to overlook Mr. Dolikhani's passion and talent for his chosen profession. Mr. Dolikhani has served the City of Miami Beach diligently for the past sixteen years in numerous capacities within the Building Department rising to the level of Assistant Building Director/Official. He has pioneered several new technologies within the City government such as an internet based system providing the public with around the clock access to property information and the ability to apply for permits via the internet. Using his creativity, computer skills, practical experience, and formal education, Mr. Dolikhani is an accomplished professional.

Paul A. Gioia

Since 1952, when the Building Officials Association of Florida started, it has only given eleven President's Awards. Mr. Gioia was awarded this honor twice. Not only has Mr. Gioia had a long and outstanding career as Building Department Director in numerous cities (including nine years in Miami Beach), he has over thirty years experience teaching inspection and code provisions to building inspectors, engineers, architects, and fire officials. As an educator, and practitioner, he believes it is important to be involved in professional organizations. He also has extensive general contractor experience in residential, high-rise commercial and historic preservation projects for which he has been recognized and awarded.

Thomas A. Velazquez

Mr. Velazquez started with Broward County in 1982 and has risen through the ranks to the title of Building Official which he has held since 1995. During that time, he also established the Building Departments in the Cities of Weston and Southwest Ranches. He has also implemented programs to expedite permit issuance, standardize plan review and inspections and move data from field inspections electronically to the County. A consummate professional, Mr. Velazquez's holds a Bachelor in Civil Engineering degree as well as numerous certifications.